

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 13932 301507Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00  
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 PA-02  
ICA-20 SS-15 NSC-05 /081 W  
-----019941 310932Z /10

R 301500Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9538  
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY LISBON  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY OSLO

UNCLAS LONDON 13932

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAIR, UK  
SUBJECT: HMG PUSHES GATWICK

1. ON AUGUST 23 THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED THAT, BEGINNING APRIL 1, 1979, ALL SCHEDULED SERVICES BETWEEN LONDON HEATHROW AND THE IBERIAN DESTINATIONS-- SPAIN AND PORTUGAL AND THEIR ISLANDS, AND GIBRALTAR-- WILL BE REQUIRED TO USE GATWICK AIRPORT. THE TRANSFER AFFECTS BRITISH AIRWAYS, IBERIA, TAP AND GIBAIR. TAP AND IBERIA BOTH REACTED NEGATIVELY, AND IBERIA SAID IT WOULD FIGHT THE MOVE. BRITISH AIRWAYS, HOWEVER, SAID IT WOULD GO ALONG WITH THE SHIFT PROVIDED OTHER AIRLINES DID SO TOO. IT IS NOT YET KNOWN WHETHER THE SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENTS WILL INTERVENE.

2. THIS IS THE LATEST IN A SERIES OF GOVERNMENT ACTIONS REQUIRING USE OF GATWICK IN PREFERENCE TO CROWDED HEATHROW. WHOLE AIRCRAFT CHARTERS WERE, FOR EXAMPLE, UNCLASSIFIED

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BANNED FROM HEATHROW BEGINNING APRIL 1 OF THIS YEAR; AND NEW SERVICES, SUCH AS BRANNIFF'S DALLAS ROUTE, HAVE BEEN FORCED TO USE GATWICK.

3. DISCUSSIONS ARE IN COURSE REGARDING THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO SHIFT ALL UK-CANADA AND UK-SCANDINAVIA SERVICES TO GATWICK. THE CANADIANS ARE

KNOWN TO BE RESISTING.

STREATOR

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, AIRPORTS, AIR ROUTES, AMENDMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978LONDON13932  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
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